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## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification <sup>6</sup> : <b>A61K 31/47</b>		<b>A1</b>	(11) International Publication Number: <b>WO 97/42953</b>
			(43) International Publication Date: 20 November 1997 (20.11.97)
(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/EP97/02401</b>		(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date: 9 May 1997 (09.05.97)		<b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>	
(30) Priority Data:			
08/644,549 10 May 1996 (10.05.96) US 08/644,547 10 May 1996 (10.05.96) US 08/644,548 10 May 1996 (10.05.96) US			
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(54) Title: USE OF BREQUINAR AND DERIVATIVES IN CHRONIC REJECTION OF ALLOGRAFTS AND XENOTRANSPLANTATION			
(57) Abstract			
Analogues of brequinar, e.g., of formula (I), are found to be useful in the treatment and prevention of allograft chronic rejection and xenograft hyperacute, acute or chronic rejection.			

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Use of Brequinar and Derivatives in Chronic Rejection of Allografts and Xenotransplantation

The invention relates to a new use for quinoline derivatives in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prevention of chronic rejection of an allograft; or hyper-acute, acute or chronic rejection of a xenograft, in a mammalian recipient thereof, utilizing quinoline derivatives and salts thereof.

2-Carbocyclic and 2-heterocyclic quinoline carboxylic acids are described in US 5,523,408, incorporated by reference, as potent inhibitors of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase, the fourth enzyme in the de novo pyrimidine nucleotide biosynthesis pathway, and therefore have a unique mechanism of action (inhibition of dihydroorotate dehydrogenase) which is distinct from other available immunosuppressive agents. They are useful in the treatment and/or prevention of organ transplantation rejection, graft versus host disease, autoimmune diseases, and chronic inflammatory diseases in a mammal.

Phenylquinoline carboxylic acids and their derivatives are described as tumor inhibiting agents in US 4,680,299, incorporated by reference. US 4,968,701 and US 5,204,329, incorporated by reference, disclose that the compounds of US 4,680,299 have immunomodulating and anti-inflammatory activity, and therefore, alone or with other immunosuppressive agents, would be useful in the treatment of autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, systemic lupus erythematosus, multiple sclerosis, and myasthenia gravis; as well as organ transplantation rejection in general and graft vs. host disease; and also as anti-inflammatory agents in the treatment of chronic inflammatory diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, psoriasis, and inflammatory bowel disease.

3-Phenyl-5,6-dihydrobenz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid compounds and derivatives thereof are described as tumor inhibiting agents in US 4,918,077 and US 5,002,954, incorporated by reference. US 5,135,934 and US 5,190,753 describe the use of these compounds as immunosuppressive or immunomodulatory agents for the treatment and/or prevention of organ transplantation rejection in general, graft versus host disease, autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, myasthenia gravis and systemic lupus erythematosus, psoriasis and other chronic inflammatory diseases.

Organ transplants of liver, kidney, lung and heart are now regularly performed as treatment for endstage organ disease. Because of the current shortage of human donors for transplantable allografts, attention has focused on the possibility of using xenografts (transplants between species) in transplantation. One of the major obstacles in transplanting successfully xenografts in humans is immunological, especially antibody mediated hyperacute or acute rejection.

A further obstacle in allo- and xenotransplantation is the chronic rejection, and thus organ transplantation is not yet a clinically viable solution to irreversible organ disease.

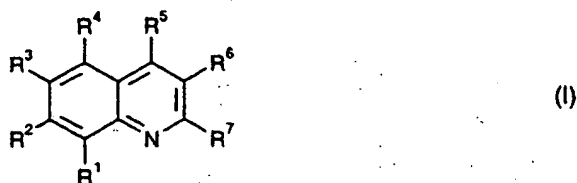
Chronic rejection, which manifests as progressive and irreversible graft dysfunction, is the leading cause of organ transplant loss, in some cases already after the first postoperative year. The clinical problem of chronic rejection is clear from transplantation survival times; about half of kidney allografts are lost within 5 years after transplantation, and a similar value is observed in patients with heart allografts.

Chronic rejection is considered as a multifactorial process in which not only the immune reaction towards the graft but also the response of the blood vessel walls in the grafted organ to injury ("response-to-injury" reaction) plays a role. The variant of chronic rejection with the worst prognosis is an arteriosclerosis-like alteration, also called transplant vasculopathy, graft vessel disease, graft arteriosclerosis, transplant coronary disease, etc. This vascular lesion is characterized by migration and proliferation of smooth muscle cells, probably under influence of growth factors that are amongst others synthesized by endothelial cells. This leads to intimal proliferation and thickening, smooth muscle cell hypertrophy repair, and finally to gradual luminal obliteration (vascular remodelling). It appears to progress also through repetitive endothelial injury induced amongst others by host antibody or antigen-antibody complexes; also so-called non-immunological factors like hypertension, hyperlipidemia, hypercholesterolemia etc. play a role.

Chronic rejection appears to be inexorable and uncontrollable because there is no known effective treatment or prevention modality. Thus, there continues to exist a need for a treatment effective in preventing, controlling or reversing manifestations of chronic graft vessel diseases.

It has now been found that quinoline derivatives of formula I as defined hereinafter are shown, unlike conventional immunosuppressants, e.g., Cyclosporin A or FK-506, to suppress antibody-mediated responses, as are characteristic in xenograft rejection, and are also indicated to prevent or combat chronic rejection in a transplanted organ.

Suitable quinoline derivatives are compounds of the formula I



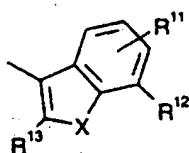
wherein

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently H, halogen,  $CF_3$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $S-CH_3$  or  $S(O)_m-C_1$ - $C_5$ alkyl, at least two of  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  being H;

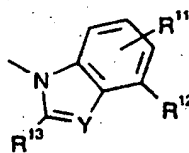
$R^5$  is  $CO(O)H$  or  $CO(O)C_2$ - $C_4$ alkylene- $NR^8R^9$ ;

$R^6$  is H or  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl or when  $R^7$  is  $A^1$ ,  $A^2$  or  $A^3$ , also  $-CN$ ,  $-NR^8R^9$ ,  $-OR^{10}$ ,  $-SR^{10}$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-OCF_3$  or  $-SCF_3$ ;

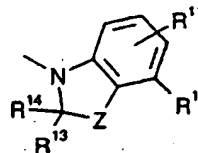
$R^7$  is a radical of formula  $A^1$ ,  $A^2$ ,  $A^3$  or B



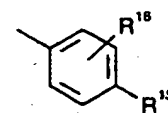
(A<sup>1</sup>)



(A<sup>2</sup>)



(A<sup>3</sup>)



(B)

wherein

$R^{11}$  is H, halogen, unsubstituted or halogen substituted  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl,  $-NR^8R^9$ ,  $-OC_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl or  $-SC_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl;

$R^{12}$  is aryl or heteroaryl which are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from H, halogen, unsubstituted or halogen substituted  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl,  $-NR^8R^9$ ,  $-OR^{10}$  and  $-SR^{10}$ ;

$R^{13}$  and  $R^{14}$  independently are H or  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl;

$R^{15}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkyl,  $C_6$ cycloalkyl,  $C_4$ heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, O-aryl, O-aralkyl,

$S(O)_m$ -aryl or  $S(O)_m$ -aralkyl, wherein m is 0, 1 or 2 and aryl and aralkyl are optionally substi-

tuted by one or more substituents selected from H, halogen, unsubstituted or halogen substituted  $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkoxy,  $NO_2$  and OH;

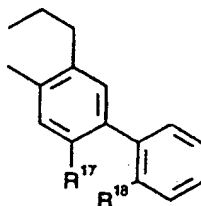
$R^{16}$  is H, halogen, unsubstituted or halogen substituted  $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkoxy,  $NO_2$  and OH;

X is  $-N(R^{10})$ -,  $-O$ -,  $-S$ - or  $-CH=CH$ -;

Y is  $-N$ - or  $-C(R^{10})$ -; and

Z is  $-C(R^8)(R^9)$ -, wherein  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  independently are H or  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl; or

$R^6$  and  $R^7$  together form a radical of formula C



(C)

wherein

$R^{17}$  and  $R^{18}$  are H or taken together are S;

$R^6$  and  $R^9$  are independently H or  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl; or  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  together form a  $C_4$ - or  $C_5$ alkylene which is optionally interrupted by  $-NH$ -,  $-N(CH_3)$ - or  $-O$ -;

$R^{10}$  is H or  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

with the following provisos for compounds wherein  $R^7$  is a radical of formula B

(a)  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  cannot all be H;

(b)  $R^{15}$  cannot be  $C_6$ cycloalkyl when  $R^5$  is  $CO(O)(CH_2)_2-N(CH_3)_2$ ,  $R^3$  is  $CH_2CH_3$  or  $R^2$  is Cl;

(c) when  $R^{15}$  is  $C_6$ cycloalkyl and  $R^6$  is H  $R^3$  must be Cl or F, but  $R^3$  and  $R^1$  cannot both be Cl; and

(d) when  $R^3$  is  $CH_3$ , then  $R^2$  cannot be Cl;

including their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug forms.

Halogen is to be understood as meaning a representative of the group consisting of fluorine, chlorine, bromine and iodine. Fluorine, chlorine and bromine are preferred, especially fluorine and chlorine.

Alkyl is intended to include both branched and straight chain saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon groups having the specified number of carbon atoms.

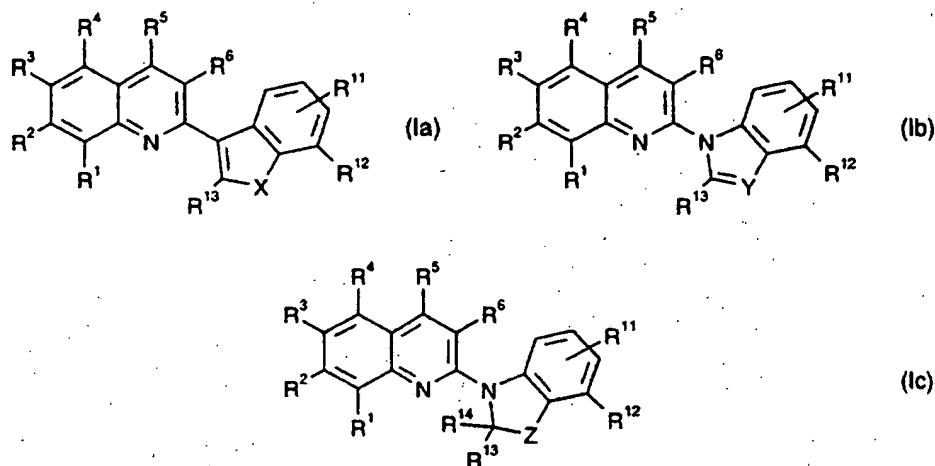
Cycloalkyl may contain preferably 5 to 8 and particularly preferably 5 or 6 ring carbon atoms.

For the purposes of the present invention, aryl or heteroaryl is a five- or six-membered ring or a bicycle consisting of two condensed six- or five-membered rings or one six-membered and one five-membered ring, and in the case of heteroaryl one or more C atoms may be replaced, independently of one another, by an atom selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen and sulfur. Examples are derived from benzene, naphthalene, indene, furan, pyrrole, pyrazole, imidazole, isoxazole, oxazole, furazan, thiadiazole, thiophene, thiazole, oxadiazole, triazole, indole, indazole, purine, benzimidazole, benzoxazole, benzothiazole, pyran, pyridine, pyridazine, triazine, pyrimidine, pyrazine, isoquinoline, cinnoline, phthalazine, quinoline, quinazoline, pteridine, benzotriazine or quinoxaline. Aryl is preferably naphthyl and phenyl. Phenyl is particularly preferred. Heteroaryl is preferably furanyl, pyridinyl and pyrimidinyl.

As used herein, "pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrugs" refer to derivatives of the disclosed compounds that are modified by making acid or base salts, or by modifying functional groups present in the compounds in such a way that the modifications are cleaved, either in routine manipulation or in vivo, to the parent compounds. Examples include, but are not limited to, mineral or organic acid salts of basic residues such as amines; and alkali or organic salts of acidic residues such as carboxylic acids; acetate, formate and benzoate derivatives of alcohols and amines; and the like. Salts of carboxylic acid residues may include, but are not limited to, sodium, potassium, diethanolamine, N-methyl-D-glucamine, procaine, lysine, choline or tris-(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane.

Pharmaceutically acceptable salts of the compounds of this invention can be prepared by reacting the free acid or base forms of these compounds with a stoichiometric amount of the appropriate base or acid in water or in an organic solvent, or in a mixture of the two; generally nonaqueous media like ether, ethyl acetate, ethanol, isopropanol, or acetonitrile are preferred. Lists of suitable salts are found in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, 17th ed., Mack Publishing Company, Easton, PA 1985, p. 1418, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

In a preferred embodiment the compounds which can be used according to the invention have the formula Ia, Ib or Ic



wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>11</sup>, R<sup>12</sup>, R<sup>13</sup>, R<sup>14</sup>, X, Y and Z have the above meanings; including their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug forms.

More preferred are compounds of the formula Ia, Ib and Ic wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are H; R<sup>3</sup> is F or CF<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>5</sup> is CO(O)H; R<sup>6</sup> is H or CH<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>11</sup> is H; R<sup>12</sup> is phenyl which is optionally substituted by one or two substituents selected from H, CH<sub>3</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub>, F and CF<sub>3</sub>; R<sup>13</sup> and R<sup>14</sup> are H; X is -N(R<sup>10</sup>)- or -CH=CH-; Y is -N- or -C(R<sup>10</sup>)-; Z is -C(R<sup>8</sup>)(R<sup>9</sup>)-, wherein R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> independently are H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; R<sup>10</sup> is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; including their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug forms.

More preferred compounds according to the invention are compounds of formula Ia, Ib or Ic wherein R<sup>12</sup> is phenyl, 2-methylphenyl, 2-fluorophenyl, 2-methoxyphenyl, 3-methoxyphenyl or 3-trifluoromethylphenyl.

Specifically preferred compounds useful in the present invention are compounds selected from the following:

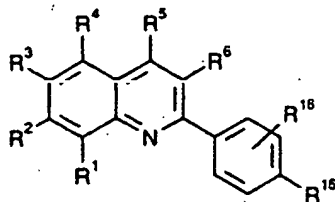
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indoliny)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;

6-fluoro-2-[4-(2-fluorophenyl)-1-indoliny]-3-methylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;

6-fluoro-[4-(2-methoxyphenyl)-1-indolyl]-3-methylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-[4-(2-methylphenyl)-1-indolyl]-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-[4-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1-indolyl]-3-methylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-[4-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-1-indolyl]-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid,  
sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-2-[4-(2-methylphenyl)-1-indolyl]-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-2-[4-(3-trifluoromethylphenyl)-1-indolyl]-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, diethanolamine salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, N-methyl-D-glucamine  
salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, procaine salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, lysine salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, choline salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, tris-(hydroxymethyl)-  
aminomethane salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(5-phenyl-1-naphthyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(7-phenyl-1-methyl-3-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt;  
3-methyl-2-(7-phenyl-1-methyl-3-indolyl)-6-trifluoromethylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium  
salt; and  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(6-fluoro-4-phenyl-1-benzimidazolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid.

Certain of the compounds of formula Ia, Ib and Ic may contain one or more asymmetric carbon atoms and may be isolated in optically active or racemic forms. All chiral, diastereomeric, and racemic forms are included in the present invention. It is well known in the art how to prepare optically active forms, such as by resolution of racemic forms or by synthesis, from optically active starting materials. All chiral, diastereomeric, racemic forms and all geometric isomeric forms of a structure are intended, unless the specific stereochemistry or isomer form is specifically indicated.

In another preferred embodiment of the present invention the compounds which can be used according to the invention have the formula II



(II)

wherein

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup>, R<sup>5</sup>, R<sup>6</sup>, R<sup>15</sup> and R<sup>16</sup> have the above meanings;

including their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug forms;

with the following provisos

(a) R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> cannot all be H;

(b) R<sup>15</sup> cannot be C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl when R<sup>5</sup> is CO(O)(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, R<sup>3</sup> is CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> or R<sup>2</sup> is Cl;

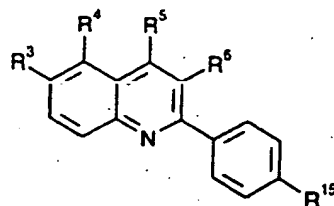
(c) when R<sup>15</sup> is C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl and R<sup>6</sup> is H R<sup>3</sup> must be Cl or F, but R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>1</sup> cannot both be Cl; and

(d) when R<sup>3</sup> is CH<sub>3</sub>, then R<sup>2</sup> cannot be Cl.

More preferred are those compounds of the formula II wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, CH<sub>3</sub>, CF<sub>3</sub>, SCH<sub>3</sub> or CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub>, at least two of R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> being H; R<sup>5</sup> is CO(O)H or CO(O)C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylene-NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>; R<sup>6</sup> is H, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>alkyl or OC<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; R<sup>15</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>12</sub>alkyl, C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl, aryl, aralkyl, O-aryl, O-aralkyl, S(O)<sub>m</sub>-aryl or S(O)<sub>m</sub>-aralkyl, wherein m is 0, 1 or 2 and aryl and aralkyl are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from H, F, Cl, Br, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> and OH; R<sup>16</sup> is H, F, Cl, Br, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, OCH<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub> or OH; including their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug forms.

Most preferred are those compounds of the formula II wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are independently H or F, Cl, Br or I; R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are independently H, F, Cl, Br, I, CH<sub>3</sub> or CF<sub>3</sub>, at least two of R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> being H; R<sup>5</sup> is CO(O)H, CO(O)K, CO(O)Na or CO(O)C<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkylene-NR<sup>8</sup>R<sup>9</sup>; R<sup>6</sup> is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>2</sub>alkyl; R<sup>8</sup> and R<sup>9</sup> are independently C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; R<sup>15</sup> is cyclohexyl, phenyl, phenyl substituted with one halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>alkyl, CF<sub>3</sub>, phenoxy, phenoxy substituted with one halogen or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>5</sub>alkyl; and R<sup>16</sup> is H.

Particularly preferred are compounds of the formula IIa



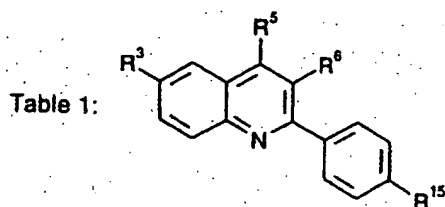
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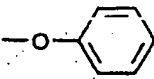
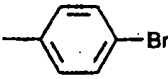
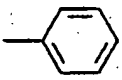
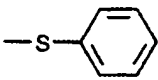
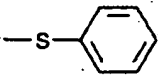
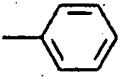
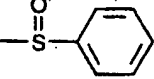
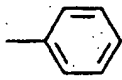
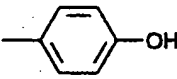
wherein  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently H, halogen or  $CF_3$ , provided that both  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are not H;  $R^5$  is  $CO(O)H$ ,  $CO(O)K$ ,  $CO(O)Na$  or  $CO(O)C_2-C_4$ alkylene- $NR^8R^9$ ;  $R^6$  is H or  $C_1-C_3$ alkyl;  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  are independently  $C_1-C_3$ alkyl;  $R^{15}$  is cyclohexyl, phenyl, phenyl independently substituted with one or two substituents selected from halogen,  $C_1-C_5$ alkyl and  $CF_3$ , phenoxy, phenoxy substituted with one or two substituents selected from halogen,  $C_1-C_5$ alkyl and  $CF_3$ , provided that when  $R^{15}$  is phenyl or phenoxy, and  $R^4$  is H, then  $R^3$  cannot be Br; and that when  $R^{15}$  is cyclohexyl and  $R^6$  is H,  $R^3$  must be Cl or F.

Specifically preferred compounds useful in this invention are:

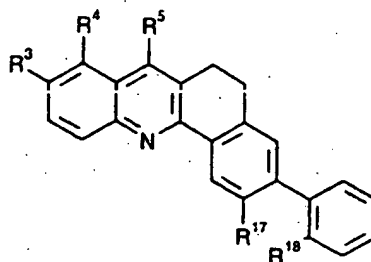
- 2-(1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-5-chloro-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, sodium or potassium salt;
- 2-(1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-5-fluoro-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, sodium or potassium salt;
- 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenoxyphenyl)-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, sodium or potassium salt;
- 2-(4'-bromo-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-6-fluoro-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, sodium or potassium salt;
- 2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-6-fluoro-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, sodium or potassium salt.

Further compounds useful in the method of the invention are listed below in Table 1.



No.	R <sup>3</sup>	R <sup>5</sup>	R <sup>6</sup>	R <sup>15</sup>	m.p. [°C]
3	F	CO(O)Na	CH <sub>3</sub>		> 350
4	F	CO(O)Na	CH <sub>3</sub>		> 350
5	CH <sub>3</sub>	CO(O)Na	CH <sub>3</sub>		> 350
6	F	CO(O)Na	CH <sub>3</sub>	-S-CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	339-343
7	Cl	CO(O)Na	CH <sub>3</sub>		319-324
8	Cl	CO(O)K	CH <sub>3</sub>		310-325
9	F	CO(O)Na	H		> 360
10	F	CO(O)Na	CH <sub>3</sub>		251-260
11	F	CO(O)Na	OCH <sub>3</sub>		345-349
12	Cl	CO(O)Na	CH <sub>3</sub>		> 360

In still another preferred embodiment of the present invention the compounds which can be used according to the invention are of the formula III



(III)

wherein

$R^3$ ,  $R^4$ ,  $R^5$ ,  $R^{17}$  and  $R^{18}$  have the above meanings; including their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug forms.

More preferred are compounds of formula III wherein  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently H, F, Cl, Br, I,  $CH_3$ ,  $CH_2CH_3$ ,  $CF_3$  or  $S(O)_m-C_1-C_5$ alkyl;  $R^5$  is  $CO(O)H$  or  $CO(O)C_2-C_4$ alkylene- $NR^8R^9$ ;  $R^8$  and  $R^9$  are independently H or  $C_1-C_3$ alkyl;  $R^{17}$  and  $R^{18}$  are H or taken together are S; including their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug forms, in one embodiment, with the proviso that when  $R^5$  is  $CO(O)Na$  then  $R^3$  is not F.

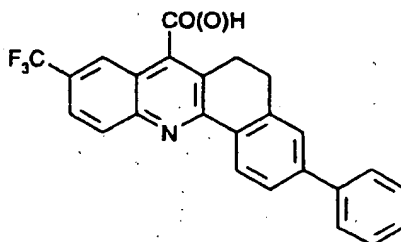
Most preferred compounds useful in the method of the present invention are those compounds of formula III wherein (a)  $R^5$  is  $CO(O)H$  or  $CO(O)Na$ ; and/or (b)  $R^4$  is H or Cl; and/or (c)  $R^3$  is H, F, Cl or  $CF_3$ .

Particularly preferred compounds useful in the method of the present invention are those compounds of formula III wherein (a)  $R^4$  is H; and/or (b)  $R^3$  is H, F or  $CF_3$ .

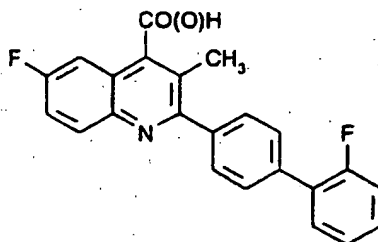
Specifically preferred compounds useful in the method of the present invention are:

- 5,6-dihydro-3-phenylbenz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, or a sodium salt;
- 5,6-dihydro-9-fluoro-3-phenylbenz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, or a sodium salt;
- 6,7-dihydro-3-fluoro-[1]benzothieno[2',3':4,5]-benz[1,2-c]acridine-5-carboxylic acid, or a sodium salt;
- 6,7-dihydro-[1]-benzothieno[2',3':4,5]-benz-[1,2-c]acridine-5-carboxylic acid, or a sodium salt; and
- 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, sodium salt.

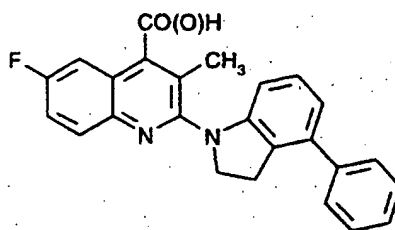
Most suitable compounds are



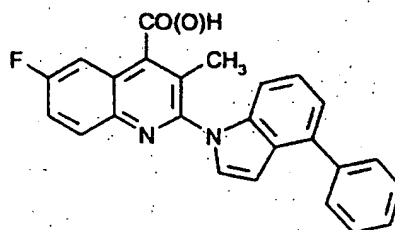
(i.e. 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid) in free or pharmaceutically acceptable salt form (e.g., sodium salt form); or



(i.e. 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid), or pharmaceutically acceptable salt form thereof (e.g., sodium salt form); or



(i.e. 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indoliny)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid) or its pharmaceutically acceptable salt forms (e.g. sodium salt form); or



(i.e. 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt form (e.g. sodium salt form).

The compounds of formula Ia, Ib and Ic useful in this invention are described in and prepared by methods set forth in US 5,523,408, the disclosure, synthesis, and synthetic examples of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

The compounds of formula II useful in this invention are described in and prepared by methods set forth in US 4,680,299, the disclosure, synthesis and synthesis examples are hereby incorporated by reference. Further compounds are set forth in US 4,968,701 incorporated by reference herein.

The compounds of formula III useful in this invention are described in and prepared by methods set forth in US 4,918,077, US 5,002,954, US 5,135,934 and US 5,190,753, the disclosure, synthesis, and synthetic examples of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

According to the particular findings of the invention the compounds of formula I and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug form are useful for the treatment and/or prevention of chronic rejection of an organ or tissue allograft; or hyper-acute, acute or chronic rejection of an organ or tissue xenograft, in a mammalian recipient thereof.

The invention thus provides:

1. A method of treating or preventing (i) chronic rejection of an allograft, or (ii) hyperacute, acute, or chronic rejection of a xenograft, comprising administering a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of formula I (in particular, 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt form thereof) (e.g., sodium salt form) to a subject in need thereof.
2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of formula I (in particular, 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic

acid, 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid in free acid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt form) (e.g., sodium salt form), together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier, for use in the treatment or prevention of (i) chronic rejection of an allograft, or (2) hyperacute, acute, or chronic rejection of a xenograft.

3. Use of a compound of formula I (in particular, 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid in free acid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt form) (e.g., sodium salt form), in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing (i) chronic rejection of an allograft; or (ii) hyperacute, acute or chronic rejection of a xenograft.

4. Use of a compound of formula I (in particular, 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid in free acid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt form) (e.g., sodium salt form), for treating or preventing chronic rejection of an allograft of hyperacute, acute or chronic rejection of a xenograft.

Organs or tissues may be transplanted from a donor to a recipient of the same species (allograft) or different species (xenograft). Among such transplanted organs or tissues and given illustratively are heart, lung, combined heart-lung, trachea, liver, kidney, spleen, pancreatic (complete or partial, e.g. Langerhans islets), skin, bowel, or cornea or a combination of any of the foregoing.

Dosages of compounds of formula I required in practicing the present invention will vary depending on the compound of formula I employed, the host, the mode of administration, and the nature and severity of the condition to be treated. The compounds of formula I may be administered by conventional means, preferably orally, e.g., in the form of tablets or capsules, or parentally, e.g., in the form of injectable solutions or suspensions. In general, satisfactory results are obtained on oral administration at dosages of from about 0.1 to about 100 mg/kg/day, preferably from 1 to 20 mg/kg/day, e.g., 3 to 10 mg/kg/day, administered in

1, 2, 3, or 4 doses/day. Suitable daily dosages for oral administration to larger mammals, e.g., humans, are generally about 50 to 1500 mg, preferably in the order of from 200 to 800 mg.

The compounds can also be administered topically as an ointment, cream, gel, spray, inhaler, solution, aerosol, liposome, patch, etc.

Dosage forms used to administer the active ingredient usually contain suitable carriers, diluents, preservatives, or other excipients, as described in Remington's Pharmaceutical Sciences, Mack Publishing Company, a standard reference text in the field.

The compounds of formula I for use in the treatment or prevention of xenograft rejection or chronic rejection may be administered alone or in combination with one or more other anti-inflammatory or immunosuppressive agents, e.g., as described above in connection with allograft rejection, for example in combination with cyclosporin A and analogs thereof, FK-506 and analogs thereof, rapamycin and analogs thereof, mycophenolic acid, mycophenolate mofetil, mizoribine, 15-deoxyspergualine, leflunomide, steroids, cyclophosphamide, azathioprene (AZA), or anti-lymphocyte antibodies or immunotoxins such as monoclonal antibodies to leukocyte receptors, e.g. MHC, CD2, CD3, CD4, or CD25; especially in combination with a T-cell suppressant, e.g., cyclosporin A or FK-506. Such combination therapy is further comprised within the scope of the invention, e.g., a method according to 1 above further comprising administration concomitantly or in sequence of a therapeutically or synergistically effective amount of such a second immunosuppressive or anti-inflammatory agent.

Utility of the compounds of formula I in treating diseases and conditions as hereinabove specified may be demonstrated in animal tests, for example in accordance with the methods hereinafter described.

#### **A. In vivo heart xenotransplantation (hamster-to-rat)**

The hamster-into-rat xenograft combination is a so-called difficult concordant combination. Rats do not have natural anti-hamster antibody in sufficient amounts to yield immediate hyperacute rejection as observed in concordant combinations; however, rejection in untreated recipients occurs within 3 to 4 days, by antibodies in combination with complement.

This is visualized in histology by destruction of blood vessels, exsudation and extravasation of erythrocytes, and influx by polymorphonuclear granulocytes; often there are signs of hemorrhage and thrombosis. Once this rejection has been overcome by effective inhibition of antibody synthesis or complement inactivation, a cellular rejection can emerge later on. This is visualized in histology by influx of mononuclear cells, including lymphocytes, lymphoblastoid cells, and macrophages, and destruction of the myocyte parenchyma. The inhibition of cellular rejection requires more immunosuppression than that of allografts. Congenitally athymic (rnu/rnu) rats lack a competent (thymus-dependent) cellular immune system and generally are unable to reject allografts. Such animals do reject a hamster xenograft within 3 to 4 days in a similar fashion as euthymic rats, indicative that (at least part of) anti-hamster antibody synthesis in rats occurs following a thymus-independent B-cell response. Such recipients are useful in hamster xenografting to evaluate rejection by thymus-independent antibody-mediated rejection.

The heart of a Syrian hamster is heterotopically transplanted in the abdomen of a male Lewis (RT1<sup>l</sup>) rat, with anastomoses between the donor and recipient's aorta and the donor right pulmonary artery to the recipient's inferior vena cava. The graft is monitored daily by palpation of the abdomen. Rejection is concluded in case of cessation of heart beat. Animals are weighed weekly. In the present series of experiments, the endpoint is set to 28 days. Animals are subjected to autopsy; apart from the graft, weight and histology is assessed for thymus, spleen, liver, seminal vesicles and testes. Blood is taken and processed to serum for the determination of cytolytic anti-hamster erythrocyte antibody and hemolytic complement activity.

Compounds are dissolved in water and administered daily or twice daily (b.i.d.) orally in a volume of 2 ml/kg body weight. Administration of 5 to 30 mg/kg/day (e.g., 10 mg/kg/day) b.i.d. of a compound of formula I (in particular, 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz-[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt) results in graft survival without signs of rejection or obvious pathology in both athymic and euthymic recipients through the endpoint of the experiment at 28 days.

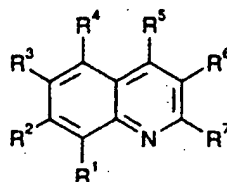
**B. Chronic allograft rejection**

The kidney of a male DA (RT1<sup>b</sup>) rat is orthotopically transplanted into a male Lewis (RT1<sup>k</sup>) recipient. In total 24 animals are transplanted. All animals are treated with cyclosporine A at 7.5 mg/kg/day per os for 14 days starting on the day of transplantation, to prevent acute cellular rejection. Contralateral nephrectomy is not performed. Each experimental group treated with a distinct dose of a compound of formula I or placebo comprises six animals.

Starting at day 53 to 64 after transplantation, the recipient animals are treated per os for another 69 to 72 days with a compound of formula I or receive placebo. At 14 days after transplantation animals are subjected to graft assessment by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) with perfusion measurement of the kidneys (with comparison of the grafted kidney and the own contralateral kidney). This is repeated at days 53 to 64 after transplantation and at the end of the experiment. The animals are then autopsied. Rejection parameters such as MRI score, relative perfusion rate of the grafted kidney and histologic score of the kidney allograft for cellular rejection and vessel changes are determined and statistically analyzed. Administration of a compound of formula I, e.g. 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid, 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid, sodium salt, at a dose of 2.5 to 5 mg/kg in this rat kidney allograft model yields a reduction in above mentioned rejection parameters.

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

## 1. Use of a compound of formula I



(I)

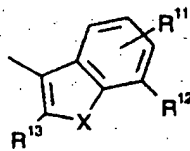
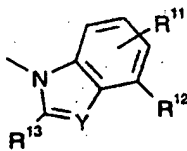
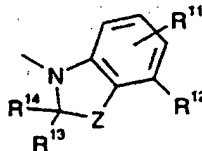
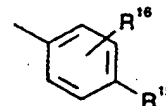
wherein

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  are independently H, halogen,  $CF_3$ ,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $S-CH_3$  or  $S(O)_m-C_1$ - $C_5$ alkyl, at least two of  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$ ,  $R^3$  and  $R^4$  being H;

$R^5$  is  $CO(O)H$  or  $CO(O)C_2$ - $C_4$ alkylene- $NR^8R^9$ ;

$R^6$  is H or  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl or when  $R^7$  is  $A^1$ ,  $A^2$  or  $A^3$ , also  $-CN$ ,  $-NR^8R^9$ ,  $-OR^{10}$ ,  $-SR^{10}$ ,  $-NO_2$ ,  $-CF_3$ ,  $-OCF_3$  or  $-SCF_3$ ;

$R^7$  is a radical of formula  $A^1$ ,  $A^2$ ,  $A^3$  or B

 $(A^1)$  $(A^2)$  $(A^3)$ 

(B)

wherein

$R^{11}$  is H, halogen, unsubstituted or halogen substituted  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl,  $-NR^8R^9$ ,  $-OC_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl or  $-SC_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl;

$R^{12}$  is aryl or heteroaryl which are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from H, halogen, unsubstituted or halogen substituted  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl,  $-NR^8R^9$ ,  $-OR^{10}$  and  $-SR^{10}$ ;

$R^{13}$  and  $R^{14}$  independently are H or  $C_1$ - $C_3$ alkyl;

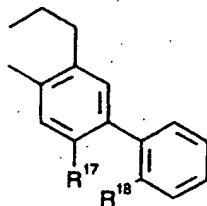
$R^{15}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$ alkyl,  $C_6$ cycloalkyl,  $C_4$ heterocycloalkenyl, aryl, aralkyl, O-aryl, O-aralkyl,  $S(O)_m$ -aryl or  $S(O)_m$ -aralkyl, wherein m is 0, 1 or 2 and aryl and aralkyl are optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from H, halogen, unsubstituted or halogen substituted  $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkoxy,  $NO_2$  and OH;

$R^{16}$  is H, halogen, unsubstituted or halogen substituted  $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_5$ alkoxy,  $NO_2$  and OH;

X is -N(R<sup>10</sup>)-, -O-, -S- or -CH=CH-;

Y is -N- or -C(R<sup>10</sup>)-; and

Z is -C(R<sup>6</sup>)(R<sup>7</sup>)-, wherein R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> independently are H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> together form a radical of formula C



(C)

wherein

R<sup>17</sup> and R<sup>18</sup> are H or taken together are S;

R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> are independently H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl; or R<sup>6</sup> and R<sup>7</sup> together form a C<sub>4</sub>- or C<sub>5</sub>alkylene which is optionally interrupted by -NH-, -N(CH<sub>3</sub>)- or -O-;

R<sup>10</sup> is H or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>3</sub>alkyl;

m is 0, 1 or 2;

with the following provisos for compounds wherein R<sup>7</sup> is a radical of formula B

(a) R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> cannot all be H;

(b) R<sup>15</sup> cannot be C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl when R<sup>5</sup> is CO(O)(CH<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>-N(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, R<sup>3</sup> is CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>3</sub> or R<sup>2</sup> is Cl;

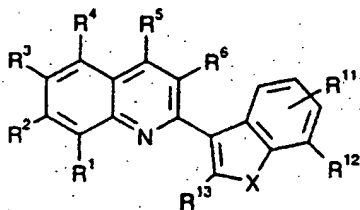
(c) when R<sup>15</sup> is C<sub>6</sub>cycloalkyl and R<sup>6</sup> is H R<sup>3</sup> must be Cl or F, but R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>1</sup> cannot both be Cl; and

(d) when R<sup>3</sup> is CH<sub>3</sub>, then R<sup>2</sup> cannot be Cl;

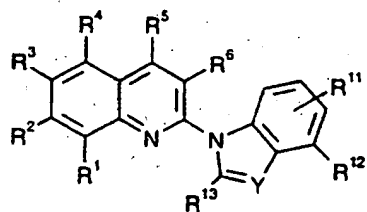
including their pharmaceutically acceptable salts and prodrug forms

in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing (i) chronic rejection of an allograft or (ii) hyperacute, acute or chronic rejection of a xenograft.

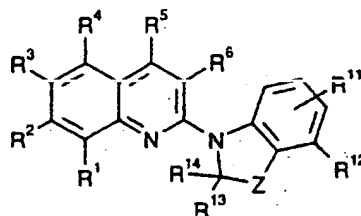
2. The use according to claim 1, wherein the compound has the formula Ia, Ib or Ic



(Ia)

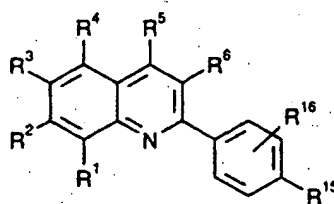


(Ib)



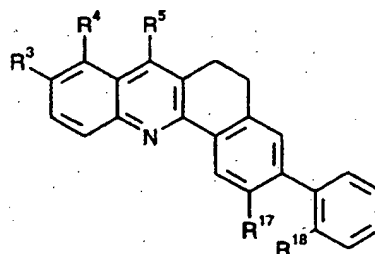
(Ic)

or the formula II



(II)

or the formula III



(III)

wherein

$R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5, R^6, R^{11}, R^{12}, R^{13}, R^{14}, R^{15}, R^{16}, R^{17}, R^{18}, X, Y$  and  $Z$  have the meanings according to claim 1.

3. Use of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form, for treating or preventing chronic rejection of an allograft or hyperacute, acute or chronic rejection or a xenograft.

4. The use according to claim 1 or 3, wherein the compound is  
 5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid,  
 6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid,  
 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indoliny)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or  
 6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt form thereof.

5. The use according to claim 1 or 3, wherein the compound is in the sodium salt form.
6. Use of a compound of formula I according to claim 1, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating or preventing chronic graft rejection.
7. Use according to claim 1, wherein said medicament is administered concomitantly or in sequence with a second drug, said second drug being an immunosuppressive drug or an anti-inflammatory agent.
8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound of formula I according to claim 1 in free form or in pharmaceutically acceptable salt form together with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier, for use in the treatment or prevention of (i) chronic rejection of an allograft, or (ii) hyperacute, acute, or chronic rejection of a xenograft.
9. The composition according to claim 8 wherein the compound is  
5,6-dihydro-3-phenyl-9-trifluoromethyl-benz[c]acridine-7-carboxylic acid,  
6-fluoro-2-(2'-fluoro-1,1'-biphenyl-4-yl)-3-methyl-4-quinoline carboxylic acid,  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid or  
6-fluoro-3-methyl-2-(4-phenyl-1-indolyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid in free acid or  
pharmaceutically acceptable salt form.

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern. Application No. **PCT/EP 97/02401**

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
A 61 K 31/47

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

A 61 K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

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X	US, A, 5 190 753 (BEHRENS et al.) 02 March 1993 (02.03.93), abstract; claims.	1-3

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☐ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search  
27 August 1997

Date of mailing of the international search report

09.09.97

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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern 1) Application No  
PCT/EP 97/02401

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## ANHANG

zum internationalen Recherchen-  
bericht über die internationale  
Patentanmeldung Nr.

## ANNEX

to the International Search  
Report to the International Patent  
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## ANNEXE

au rapport de recherche inter-  
national relatif à la demande de brevet  
international n°

PCT/EP 97/02401 SAE 160980

In diesem Anhang sind die Mitglieder  
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angeführten Patentedokumente angegeben.  
Diese Angaben dienen nur zur Unter-  
richtung und erfolgen ohne Gewähr.

This Annex lists the patent family  
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in no way liable for these particulars  
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La présente annexe indique les  
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